

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following paragraph at p. 1, line 4:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a Continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/906,648, entitled "Transparent Compatibility and Adaptation to Differing Format Implementations in a Computer System," filed on August 7, 1997, which is a Continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/644,535, entitled "Transparent Compatibility and Adaptation to Differing Format Implementation's in a Computer System," filed on May 10, 1996.

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

A method for improving compatibility between an application program and a display device of a computer system includes: aspect provides providing a first format in a first frame buffer, the first format compatible with a format for an application program, provides providing a second format in a second frame buffer, the second format compatible with a format for an output device, and transforms transforming inputs from the application program from the first format in the first frame buffer to the second format in the second frame buffer for output on the output device to provide compatibility between the application program and the output device without altering the application program. A system aspect for improving compatibility between an application program and a display device of a computer system includes a CPU, at least one real frame buffer coupled to the CPU and to the display device, the at least one real frame buffer having a first format compatible with the display device, and at least one alternate frame buffer coupled to the at least one real frame buffer and the CPU, the at least one alternate frame buffer having a second format compatible with the application program, wherein the CPU controls transformations from the second format to the first format transparently to the application program. With the present

invention, new formats can be developed to reduce costs and improve performance with transparent compatibility for programs developed to correspond with old formats. Thus, improved flexibility for supporting a variety of formats developed for differing memory depths, differing resolutions, and differing color formats is realized.